

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Giovannoni and Connon

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Application No. Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: HIGH-THROUGHPUT MICROBIAL CULTURING

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Date: January 16, 2002

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In the specification, please replace the paragraph at the top of page 1, immediately after the title, with the following paragraph and heading:

**-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED CASES**

This is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/675,382, filed on September 29, 2000, and claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/189,005, filed on March 13, 2000, both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. --

**REMARKS**

By this amendment the specification has been changed to reflect prior related applications. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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**Marked-up Version of Amended Specification  
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)**

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AUG 2002 10:00 AM '02  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
EXAMINER: EDDIE G. COOPER